As this Sunday is Father’s Day, I thought I’d reflect a little on Fatherhood. There’s an advertisement on television at the moment that recognises the roles that Dads play in the life of their children. It’s mainly just kids and young adults spending time with their Dads, playing, celebrating, commiserating etc. I love it. It does away with the old stereotypes of the male of the house being the staunch, “Rock of Gibraltar” type “bloke” who cares for his family in an aloof, patriarchal sort of way. I loved my dad very much but he was a lot like that…. big boys don’t cry and all that. I know he loved me and I can still recall “whisky” kisses when I was a young boy. Sadly, he was not my “go to” person when things got tough. Lucky I had an older brother that steered me through many a dilemma.

With my own son, I have been determined that he sees my loving side at every opportunity and that’s always paid big dividends for me as he readily reciprocates my feelings for him with a big hug or the occasional pat on the back (and the occasional playful punch in the arm – not that I let him get away with that too often). I love the fact that, as a young man, he knows he can talk to me about anything (not that he necessarily does). I do get the feeling some topics are off limits but, at other times, he’ll come out with something and I’ll think WOW, he trusts me enough to talk about that!! I love it. I love sharing his life. I love him, very, very much.

I can only hope that I’ll be there whenever he needs me to be, to support, to encourage, to empathise, to give and receive feedback, to just be there in the tough times and celebrate the good times. His life is irrevocably linked to my life and I wouldn’t have it any other way. He’ll move out one day and I’m not really looking forward to that but, in another sense, I’ll celebrate his independence as I know it will eventually draw us ever closer.

In my younger days we talked about God the Father as some gentle, caring, kind old man who sought to look after everyone. It was easy to understand but I think God is the best in men and women and a whole lot more to boot. I understand that the essence of God is love and is therefore present wherever love exists. God isn’t some mystical figure that exists only in the stratosphere. God is ever present in our world and when we see acts of love and goodness, we get to glimpse God at work in our world.

So Dads, when you celebrate Father’s Day this Sunday, remember that the love you have for your children is strongly linked to the love that God has for all of us. In fact the love you share with your children will help them to understand the love God has for them. In that way, you are a living lesson of God’s love. That can be a bit scary if you think about it too much but also highly rewarding.
Dear Parents,

This weekend we celebrate the greatest of parents…… DADS! Okay, there may have been a bit of “tongue in cheek” there (but I am a “bloke” so I have to score one for the boys every now and then). I hope that our dads are spoilt “rotten” by their beautiful children on Father’s Day and they have a day to remember.

**Book Week**

This week, St Pat’s School are celebrating Book Week. There are a number of activities planned. Last Monday, students worked in family groupings on a number of literacy based activities. Good fun was had by all.

There are lots of other activities planned in classrooms during the week.

**Book Parade – Tomorrow Thursday at 9.00am**

Tomorrow (Thursday) from 9.00am to 10.00am, we will hold our Book Parade. Students and staff can come along dressed up as their favourite book character. Parents and Friends of St Pat’s school are most welcome to join us (you could also come along in costume, if that’s what “floats your boat”!).

**In Sympathy**

We mourn the passing of Joanne Devers, nanny to Isabelle (Grade 6), Hayden (Grade 1). Please keep Chris, Caleb and family in your thoughts and prayers at this sad time.

**Father’s Day Stall**

The Parents & Friends Association are running a Father’s Day stall, this Thursday in the School Hall. Each item will cost $4.00. It’s a great opportunity for the children to do something for their Dad. It is not obligatory to be involved as parents can decide whether their child participates.

Some of you, for example, may prefer to buy their dad’s a Maserati or tickets to the Grand Final (in which case a small present from the school could be a bit “lame”!). The P&F provide this as a service to our students and families. It is run at a loss. It’s more to do with allowing our children to think of their Dads and do something special for them on their special day as well as fostering a bit of independence.

**Father’s Day Assembly**

This Friday 4th September, we will be holding a Father’s Day Assembly at school commencing at 9.00am. All DADS are most welcome to join us. For those who can’t attend, we’ll try to upload a bit of the Assembly to Facebook so people (Dads) don’t miss out altogether (I hope we can do that!).

**P & F Chocolates**

There are now only five families that have yet to return their chocolates. Within the next few days a member of the Parents & Friends financial committee will contact those families yet to respond. Please avoid the embarrassment of this occurring by returning chocolates or money as soon as possible.

THANK YOU ARBONNE FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
EARN & LEARN Stickers

Thanks to all of the avid collectors for the WOOLWORTHS EARN and LEARN promotion. Your efforts are appreciated. Stickers collected allow us to purchase some great resources for the school.

Life Relationships – Reminder

The “Life Relationships” program for the years 5 and 6 students will be held NEXT Wednesday, 9th September at 6.30pm.

End of Term/Beginning of Term

Term three will finish on Friday fortnight (18th September at 2.30pm). School will resume on Monday, 5th October at 9.00am. Please note that the Monday (5th Oct) was originally gazetted as a closure day. However, due to the lack of availability of one of our presenters, we have now moved the closure day further into the term.

The latest APP & St Patrick’s School (free App) Newsletter Online

St Patrick's App is available for free to help keep you up to date with our activities and important dates and reminders.
Details can be found at:

http://www3.spwangaratta.catholic.edu.au/
http://stpatricksict.wikispaces.com/St+Patrick%27s+Mobile+App

Mass Times

* Saturday 6.00pm St Patrick's
* Sunday 8.00am St Patrick's
* Sunday 9.00am Our Lady's
* Sunday 10.30am St Patrick's
* Sunday 5.00pm Latin Mass at St Patrick's

Terry

CHATTER MATTERS

After reading with your child, get him/her to describe something from the book using the 5 senses to guide: what it… looks like / feels like / smells like / tastes like / sounds like. You may need to prompt your child with questions and brainstorm different words together. E.g. Birthday Cake: Looks – round and can be different colours, though is usually brown. Feels – spongy, soft, and moist. Smells – so good it makes your mouth water. Tastes – sweet and yummy.

THANK YOU JUDD’S TAVERN FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
### DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
<th>OCTOBER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3(^{rd})</td>
<td>5(^{th})</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.00am Book Week Parade (Dress Up)</td>
<td>9.00am TERM 4 BEGINS</td>
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<tr>
<td>3(^{rd})</td>
<td>9.00am Father’s Day Assembly</td>
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<td>4(^{th})</td>
<td>2.30pm TERM 3 ends</td>
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<td>9(^{th})</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.30pm “Life Relationships” Evening (Year 5 &amp; 6)</td>
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### THANK YOU

A big thankyou to Rick Canning for the donation of Footballs he donated to our school last week. As you know, all the children enjoy kicking the footballs and many end up on our roof or next door!

### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Samual Phillips for coming second in the "Around the Campfire" competition that was run by the Wangaratta Library. It was open to all schools in the Wangaratta district. Fantastic effort Sam!

### Don’t forget…..

FATHER’S DAY STALL

**Tomorrow**

**THURSDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER**

$4.00 per present

THANK YOU **FLETCHER CLEANING** FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
PAT ON THE BACK

Foundation
Mrs Bray
A big pat on the back to STELLA JOHNSON for her “Super Dooper” attitude. We love the way she works with a smile!

Foundation
Mrs Rizzo
A big pat on the back to CHRISTIAN PASQUALI for the wonderful way he cares for his friends and showing great leadership skills in the classroom. Well done Christian! Keep it up!

Year 1
Ms Collins
Congratulations to HAYDEN DEVERS for working out patterns in his Maths work and for being ready to challenge himself. Great work Hayden!

Year 1
Miss Smith
A big pat on the back to CHRISTIAN PRESTIANI for always looking out for his friends in and outside the classroom. You are a wonderful friend to have Christian, thank you!

Year 2
Mrs Cassidy
Congratulations to TAIT SIMS for always approaching her learning with an enthusiastic attitude!

Year 2
Ms Rinaldi
A big pat on the back to LAYLA STEER for showing commitment and enthusiasm when completing work tasks. Keep it up, Layla!

Year 3
Ms Daglish
A big pat on the back to MADELINE WALKER for being attentive and listening well in class!

Year 3
Mrs Vincent
A big pat on the back to SAMUEL SHEPHERD for his quiet manner in class. Samuel quietly goes about his work with a beautiful smile on his face. Keep up the great attitude Samuel!

Year 4
Miss Gaston
Congratulations to CODY ATTERIDGE & CHARLIE PHILPOTTS for the exceptional professionalism and service they provided at DC Cinemas. A top effort!

Year 4
Mrs Shaw
Congratulations to ALICE O’CONNOR for her beautiful heartfelt writing she composed about her Dad for Father’s Day. Wonderful job Alice!

Year 5
Miss Sartori
Congratulations to JULIA MULLENS & STEPHANIE VAN GASTELEN for the tremendous effort they put into preparing and presenting on OAK FM last Wednesday. We loved listening to you girls.

Year 5
Mr Levesque
Congratulations to CAMPBELL MCCLOUNAN for being a responsible leader by helping the Preps at the Beauty and The Beast concert.

Year 6
Mrs Cornish
Congratulations to DECLAN LAWFORD for his patience and enthusiastic effort during the Robotics Program at TAFE.

Year 6
Mrs Rickard
Congratulations to EDWARD DWYER for the maturity he is displaying in class when working on independent activities.

ICT AWARD
Mr Fram
Congratulations to TAYAH AMBROSIO for her consistently impressive ICT Skills, which she demonstrates by her excellent listening to directions and her independent working.
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOM

FOUNDATION – Karen & Karen

Welcome to week eight in the Foundation area where things just keep getting busier and busier!! The children had a wonderful time last Monday participating in Literacy and Numeracy rotations with the whole school. There were a great variety of activities and lots of fun for all ages. Also a BIG thank you to the parents and grandparents, who came along and read stories with Karen Bray’s literacy activity.

Just a few reminders:

- **Book Week Parade – 3rd September** (Dress-up as your favourite book character, at no expense)
- **Father’s Day Stall – 3rd September** ($4.00 in an envelope/plastic bag with child’s name on it)
- **Father’s Day Assembly** this Friday, 4th September. All dads’ are welcome!

This week in:

**Religion** – we have started our new unit, “I Can Talk to God.” We are looking at and talking about our classroom prayer table and what is on it and why? (eg coloured cloth, Bible, candle…) The children will also brainstorm and list those that they can talk to at any time.

**Literacy** - the children continue revising letters/sounds and High Frequency words through games, whiteboard activities, LSCWC, word shapes and little words in words. We are introducing the children to another decoding tool called ‘syllabification’ in which the children work/clap out how many syllables are in a word e.g. roc/ket (2 syllables).

We continue writing letters, cards, etc… but our focus this week is on Dad. Letters are coming in thick and fast so please keep writing and mailing them through the class letterbox. The kids get very excited and love reading and replying to the letters!

**Mathematics** – each week we continue to expand the children’s mathematical knowledge of place value through counting, stories, games and exploration activities. Our class focus this week is extending our understanding and knowledge of 2D shapes and 3D objects. We are sorting, describing and exploring the differences between a 2D and 3D shape and locating them in the environment.

**Inquiry** – we are looking at different ways people communicated in the past/olden days. The children will brainstorm and list ideas on how people recorded information before paper was invented, including Indigenous stories about the Dreamtime, message sticks, cave paintings...

YEAR ONE/TWO – Gen, Sarah, Janina, Amanda & Nara

**YEAR 1**

We all enjoyed celebrating **Literacy and Numeracy Week** on Monday with our rotational group activities.

**Literacy**

After our excursion to the **Wangaratta Chronicle** yesterday, the children discussed all the things we had seen and learned, then wrote a report about this to go in their journals. Tomorrow, they will write a recount about our **Book Week** parade, after brainstorming possible vocabulary and ideas they could use to make this interesting. As part of our work on **Explanation** text type, we will be reading *How a Butterfly Comes Out of a Chrysalis* from a Big Book.

Our sound for the week is ‘ill’ and our blend is ‘sw’.

THANK YOU 3rd **LITTLE DUCK CATERING** FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
**Numeracy**

This week, we are working again on addition and subtraction, with a variety of games and activities to further develop skills in these areas. One focus will be on understanding the connection between these two processes e.g. if we know $9 + 3 = 12$, then we also know $12 - 3 = 9$. It would be helpful if children could practise learning number facts to 10, then 20 at home, and also doubles to 20.

**Special Events and Dates this Week**

- **Book Week Parade** - Thursday
- **Father’s Day Stall** – Thursday (Children need $4 for this)
- **Our Father’s Day assembly** - Friday

**YEAR 2**

What a busy week it is in the Year 2 area! We are especially excited about our upcoming assembly this Friday, where we will be incorporating a special tribute to all of our fathers! Please come along – we would love to see you!

**Numeracy**

In numeracy this week, we have commenced our new unit on ‘chance’. In this unit, students will identify practical activities and everyday events that involve chance. They will learn to describe outcomes as being ‘likely’ or ‘unlikely’ and identify some events as either ‘certain’ or ‘impossible’.

**Literacy**

This week our focus for spelling is ‘str’ as in ‘strengthen’. Ask your child to tell you about some of the words discussed as part of our brainstorm on Monday – we are so impressed at the level that our students are working. Their dedication to spelling is commendable!!!

**School Uniform**

A reminder, that, students are to be in correct school uniform, including socks, on both sports and non-sports days. We are seeing an increasing number of students wearing fluoro coloured socks, as opposed to grey or white. Additionally, some students have been wearing runners on non-sport days. Please encourage your child to make correct uniform choices, in alignment with our school uniform policy.

**Inquiry**

As part of our inquiry unit, ‘Communicate With Me’, our Year 2 students will be visiting 3NE and Edge FM next Wednesday 9th September. Please ensure that any permission notes that have not been returned are sent in to school as soon as possible. Thanks also, to the parents who have volunteered their time to accompany us on this excursion. It is much appreciated!

Last week’s visit to The Wangaratta Chronicle was a fabulous one, with the students experiencing many different facets of the newspaper industry and how communication with the community plays such a big part in the publication of the newspaper. We are very grateful to the staff that made our experience such a fabulous one! Unfortunately Year 2 Rinaldi were unable to attend due to inclement weather.

**Term 3 Dates**

- **Book Week Parade**: Tomorrow (Thursday 3rd September)
- **Father’s Day Stall**: Tomorrow (Thursday 3rd September)
- **Year 2 Assembly (Father’s Day Assembly)**: Friday 4th September
- **Last day of term**: Friday 18th September (2.30 finish)

THANK YOU **ANYTIME FITNESS** FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL
This week is National Numeracy and Literacy week. The children participated in some rotations with mixed age groups across the school focusing on literacy and maths on Monday. Thanks to Mrs. Cornish for her organisation of this great time together.

**Maths** - We are continuing to look at word problems and what skills we need to work out such problems, looking for key words in the written problem etc. We are using division and multiplication mental strategies to solve problems.

Year 3’s are currently investigating multiplication in Maths. The children are continuing to learn their times tables to assist them in these areas.

**Literacy** - Many interesting and varying informational reports are being produced in all classes. They are using different ways to present their reports. Spelling as usual is practiced throughout the week daily. The children are doing a fabulous job with their reports. Some interesting facts about different countries are being discovered which is sparking the interest of the teachers too! Some excellent holiday destinations perhaps! Everyday the children partake in spelling activities focusing on different sound focuses, plurals, homophones etc. Please ask your child what is their spelling focus for the week.

**Religious Education** -The area is now starting to look at ‘Followers of Jesus’, unit where the children will examine parables that invited people to think about the way they live. Students will be given the opportunity to engage and encounter Jesus in the context of his time and place.

**Inquiry** - Earn and Learn continues to be our main focus during Inquiry. This program displays beautifully the many influences money has on our daily lives. The children have been amazing with their enthusiasm in the participation of Earn and Learn. Some interesting movie screenings have been shown and the owners of the cinemas have displayed great management capacities and their organisational skills have been exceptional. There have been some big learning curves for the children regarding how they spend their money. From the teacher’s perspectives it has been very interesting. We are hoping the children will learn by the end of the unit just how much money does influence our lives!

**On the last Thursday of Term, 17th September, we would like to invite parents to come and view the Earn and Learn program in action. Opening time is 9.00am - 10.00am. So if you are free, please come and visit us in the 3/4 area.**

**Reminders**

* Book week parade is tomorrow, Thursday the 3rd September at approximately 9.15am. Don’t forget to get those costumes happening! Looking forward to seeing some great book characters.

* Father’s Day Assembly this week on Friday at 9.00am. Everyone is welcome.

* Father’s Day Stall, children are asked to bring $4.00 if they want to purchase a present.

* Ms. Gaston’s children are asked to bring a jar to school for an art activity, pasta sauce size jar please.

* Year 3 children are asked to bring a photo to school of their dad.

* Please continue to ensure your children are reading regularly and completing any given homework.

* Year 4 Shaw, Gaston, Daglish and Vincent have reading diaries that are to be filled out please; this helps us to record children’s active home reading.

**THANK YOU APPIN STREET BAKERY FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL**
Religion - This week we continue with our new topic “Life Relationships” which also relates to our Inquiry topic - Mind, Body & Soul. The major topics we will be covering in this RE unit are how we respond to God’s commandments by treating each other with respect, love and compassion. Some questions we will explore are: What does relationship mean? Who do we have relationships with? How do we feel when we are in a ‘good relationship’? How can we make others feel good about themselves? What do we mean by communication? What do we mean when we say someone is a good listener?

This Friday the Year 5’s will be attending Mass at the Church starting at 12:05pm. Next Friday will be the Year 6’s. We would love parents/grandparents to join us.

Literacy - Reading: Our focus this week is Inferring whilst reading, looking for clues within the text.
Writing: We are planning an information report based on Healthy Eating, Active Lifestyle or Mindfulness. The children will be involved in planning using a graphic organiser, drafting their report, editing and publishing their report to share with others.

Maths - This week we are solving worded problems involving multiplication and division. This involves reading a problem carefully, locating the key information and using this information to help us to understand what we need to solve the problem. We have been using a website called Maths Antics which has short movies explaining and demonstrating a variety of maths topics. The topics on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division have been very helpful.

Inquiry
We are continuing to learn about our minds, bodies and souls with the children participating in activities and reading about how we grow and change.

Life Relationships Unit - This unit is a requirement for all Victorian Schools to address aspects of personal development within their core curriculum provision. We began our Life Relationships Program, this week which has been developed in the Sandhurst Diocese and includes a unit of work for Year 5/6 students, and a parent/student evening. The program offers a holistic approach within the context of Catholic teaching to topics such as:
• relationships
• family
• adolescence and puberty
• reproduction.
The children have taken a note home explaining the unit and inviting them to a children/parent/carer night here at St Patrick’s on Wednesday 9th September in the school hall commencing at 6:30pm. Please return the note to your child’s teacher promptly.

Grade 6 Rickard - The children in Year 6 Rickard begin their Robotics program with Justin McMahon from Wangaratta TAFE. We are really looking forward to getting our Robots made and then bringing them to life with our programming sessions next term.

Assembly - This week during the Year 2 assembly, the children will be doing a special presentation to their Dad’s celebrating the role Dad’s play in their lives. We would love all the Dad’s to pop in and have a look at their children performing.

THANK YOU BEAUTY BY COURTNEY FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL